

STARTING A NEW CHAPTER

Woodridge Public Library is Now Fine Free!

No more daily
late fines for
overdue items.

Existing fines
have been
cleared from
library accounts.

FINE FREE
IS WORRY-FREE!



INSIDE
FINE FREE DETAILS
FALL PROGRAMS



Effective August 1, 2021—FINE FREE

The Woodridge Public Library is now officially Fine Free! As of August 1, 2021, we will no longer assess late fees for anything borrowed from the Woodridge Public Library. Additionally, all existing overdue fines have been cleared from your account.

What does this mean for you?

You will no longer be charged a daily overdue fine on late items. However, library items still need to be returned or renewed by their due date. To help with on-time returns, we will continue to automatically renew items up to Two (2) times and send out reminder notices.

If you have an item that is 21 days overdue, your card will be blocked from checking out other materials. Once the item is returned, the block is lifted automatically. Lost or damaged materials will be charged a replacement and processing fee. Patrons receive several reminders before they are billed for lost items.

Reminders	
Courtesy Notice	Two days before item is due
First Overdue Notice	7 days overdue
Second Overdue Notice/Card Blocked	21 days overdue
Billing Notice	42 days overdue

Why Fine Free?

We want people to use the library; fines discourage and even stop people from using the library. Public libraries across the country have seen an increase on return rates after eliminating overdue fines.

It is that simple. Late fines are ineffective for getting people to return items on time. Suspending borrowing privileges is more effective without the financial burden of fines. Fine Free allows us to improve customer service and remove barriers to library use.

FINE FREE Frequently Asked Questions

Will this impact wait times for popular items or make my hold times longer?

We will continue to encourage and promote on-time returns with email reminders and notifications. Libraries that have eliminated overdue fines report that items were returned at similar rates, or return rates actually increased after they changed their policy—which means, eliminating late fines should not adversely impact your wait time. If material is more than 21 days overdue a patron's card will be blocked until the overdue item is returned.

Does "Fine Free" mean I will never be charged by the library ever again?

Daily overdue/late fines are being eliminated. There will still be charges for lost or damaged materials.

What about old overdue fines?

All existing overdue fines owed to Woodridge Public Library have been removed. This does not apply to fines from other libraries or charges for lost or damaged items.

My card is still blocked. Why can't I use it?

There are many reasons why your card may be showing as blocked. The most common reasons include you have fees for lost items, your card was reported lost, or we received returned mail from your address. Contact us and we will see how we can help you.

Will this affect library services or increase taxes?

No. Overdue fines account for less than one percent of our budget.

Does this mean I can keep materials longer?

No. Borrowed items still have due dates and need to be returned on time to avoid suspension of borrowing privileges. We will continue to automatically renew items up to two (2) times, if no one is waiting, and we will send notifications to your phone or email when your item is late. If you keep material 21 days past your due date, your card will be blocked until you return the overdue item(s).



What if I lose or damage an item?

You will be charged the replacement cost and a processing fee.

Why not also waive lost item fees?

The Library's collection – the books, movies, and other materials – is at the core of our services, and is a substantial investment of taxpayer funds. In order to be good stewards of these funds, it is important that we enforce compensation for lost, damaged, or stolen items.



What if I return an item after it was billed as lost?

We will not charge you any late fines if you return an item that was designated as lost.

What if I pay for a lost item and then find it?

Replacement costs for Woodridge Public Library items, minus processing fees, will be refunded.

What if a Woodridge library cardholder checks out materials at another library?

If you use your library card at a neighboring library, Woodridge Public Library cardholders will be charged overdue fines according to that library's policies.

Why is the library removing fines?

We strive to provide excellent service to all residents. Overdue fines create barriers to service and often stop people from using their library. By eliminating fines, we hope to share the collection and services with more community members.

Will I still have to pay to print, fax, and scan documents at the library?

Yes. Fees will still be charged for copying, printing, faxing, and 3D printing.

Children's Programs

Registration for in-person fall programs will begin on **Tuesday, September 7**. Register through the online Events Calendar.



Storytime and other programs for children and adults to **attend in-person at the Woodridge Library** are resuming in the fall. We will continue to monitor and adjust safety protocols according to the most recent guidance available, with current Covid-19 measures updated on our webpage. Safety measures directly related to attending **in-person programs** will be highlighted on the website in the days leading up to registration.

Storytime Events in September, October & November

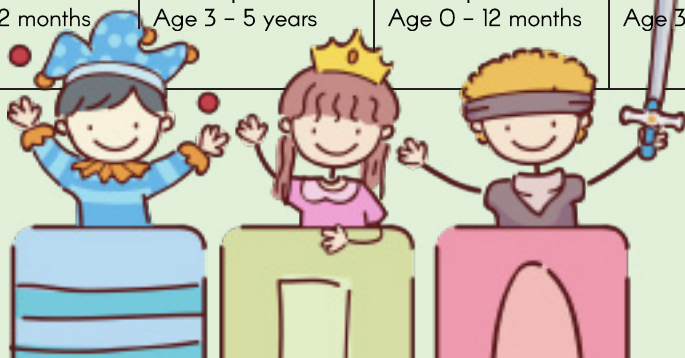
Our story programs are filled with exciting interactive play, games, music, and fun-filled stories. Your child will have a **great time** while learning social & early literacy skills.

NEW!

- We greatly expanded the number of preschool story events for fall.
- Each story program repeats up to four (4) times per week. Each of the repeats is the **EXACT SAME PROGRAM**.
- **Registration is required.**
- **Register for up to one (1) story program each week per child.**
- Register your child for each individual event date you want them to attend.

Visit the Events Calendar for a full fall listing of story program dates and times. We will offer a repeating schedule of fall story programs:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Storytime 9:30 – 10 a.m. Age 3 – 5 years	Baby Lapsit I 9:30 – 10 a.m. Age 0 – 12 months	Storytime 9:30 – 10 a.m. Age 3 – 5 years	Baby Lapsit I 9:30 – 10 a.m. Age 0 – 12 months.
Toddler Time 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Age 2 – 3 years	Baby Lapsit II 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Age 12 – 24 months.	Toddler Time 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Age 2 – 3 years	Baby Lapsit II 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Age 12 – 24 months.
Baby Lapsit II 11 – 11:30 a.m. Age 12 – 24 months.	Toddler Time 11–11:30 a.m. Age 2 – 3 years	Baby Lapsit II 11 – 11:30 a.m. Age 12 – 24 months.	Toddler Time 11–11:30 a.m. Age 2 – 3 years
Baby Lapsit I 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Age 0 – 12 months	Storytime 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Age 3 – 5 years	Baby Lapsit I 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Age 0 – 12 months	Storytime 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Age 3 – 5 years



Storytime FAQs

How do I know which story program to register my child for?

Choose according to age:
 Baby Lapsit: 0 – 12 months
 Baby Lapsit II: 12 – 24 months
 Toddler Time: 2 to 3 years
 Storytime: 3 to 5 year

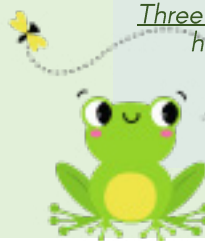
Why do I have to make a new registration for every date I want my child to attend?

Registering for individual dates allows you to choose from week to week the day and time that work best for you, **AND** since we repeat each program up to four times a week, we serve more children.

Why can't I sign up for more than one story program a week?

There is only **one new story program a week** for your child's age group and that exact same program is repeated throughout the week.

For example, if Monday's Toddler Time reads Three Little Frogs, sings "Itsy Bitsy Fly," hops in place, talks about the color green and listens to bullfrog sounds, then Tuesday's Toddler Time will also read Three Little Frogs, sing "Itsy Bitsy Fly," hop in place, talk about the color green...**the same program is repeated so different children can attend.**



Children's Programs

Register online at woodridgelibrary.org/events



SEPTEMBER FROG FEST

All Ages **LIVE FROG
SHOW**
SEPT 18, 11 a.m.

OCTOBER SPOOKTOBER OCT 25 - 29

Visit the Children's Dept.
for games, crafts,
Halloween fun & a photo op.

Come in costume & say hello
we will have a treat bag for you
to go! **All
Ages**

ATTEND IN-PERSON

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: OPENS SEPTEMBER 7

GRADES

4 - 8 **STEM: LeapFrog Popsicle Sticks** Mon., Sept. 13, 4:30 p.m.

2 - 5 **Afterschool Art** Tues., Sept. 14, 3 p.m.

1 - 3 **Pop-Up Makerspace** Thurs., Sept. 16, 3:15 p.m.

PreK **Babies & Toddlers: Moovin' & Groovin'** Fri., Sept. 17, 10 a.m.

All Ages **Frogs & Friends! See REAL Frogs, Amphibians & Reptiles**
Sat., September 18, 11 a.m.

K - 3 **Book Magic Stories & Craft: Frogs** Mon., Sept. 20, 4 p.m.

K - 6 **Disney Trivia Night** Thurs., Oct. 7, 6 p.m.

4 - 8 **STEM: Build a Rollercoaster** Mon., Oct. 11, 4:30 p.m.

2 - 5 **Afterschool Art: Collage** Tues., Oct. 12, 3 p.m.

PreK **Babies & Toddlers Moovin' & Groovin'** Fri., Oct. 15, 10 a.m.

All Ages **Singalong Saturday** Sat., Oct 16, 11 a.m.

K - 3 **Book Magic Stories & Craft: Halloween** Mon., Oct. 18, 4 p.m.

1 - 3 **Pop-Up Makerspace** Thurs., Oct. 21, 3:15 p.m.

4 - 8 **STEM: Mini Catapult** Mon., Nov. 8, 4:30 p.m.

2 - 5 **Afterschool Art: Wild & Crazy Self Portraits** Tues., Nov. 9, 3 p.m.

PreK **Babies & Toddlers Moovin' & Groovin'** Fri., Nov. 12 10 a.m.

All Ages **Singalong Saturday** Sat., Nov. 13, 11 a.m.

K - 3 **Book Magic Stories & Craft: Kindness** Mon., Nov. 15, 4 p.m.

1 - 6 **Kids' Thanksgiving BINGO** Mon., Nov. 22, 7 p.m.

ATTEND IN-PERSON **DROP-IN: NO REGISTRATION**

Halloween Spooktacular
October 25 - 29

Family Game Nights
Fri., Sept. 24, Oct. 22,
Nov. 19, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

LEGO Free Build
Tues, Sept. 28, Oct. 26,
Nov. 23, 2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Puzzle Day
Sat., Oct. 2, 1 - 4 p.m.

Halloween Crafts
Sat., Oct. 30, 1 - 3 p.m.

Make Your Own
Wrapping Paper
Sat., Nov. 27, 1 - 3 p.m.

You Tube **VIRTUAL PROGRAMS YOUTUBE PREMIERES 10 A.M.**

A Froggy Fairytale Sept. 15
Pumpkin Fun Storytime Oct. 13
Spooktacular Storytime Oct. 27
Turkey Tales Storytime Nov. 24

DOOR DECORATING CONTEST OCT 1 - 24

Email a photo of a door you have
decorated with Halloween spirit, along
with age, name & phone number to
wrschilrens@woodridgelibrary.org
by OCT 24 for a chance to win.



TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS: NO REGISTRATION

Frog on Lily Pad Sept. 7 - 12

Frog Card Sept. 20 - 26

Tween: Perler Fidget Spinner Sept. 27 - Oct. 3

Spider Pop & Bat Craft Oct. 4 - Oct. 10

Tween: Yarn Letter Oct. 25 - Oct. 31

Scarecrow Craft Nov. 1 - 7

Pumpkin Pie Craft Nov. 15 - 21

Tween: Dreamcatcher Nov. 22 - 28

TO GO PROGRAMS:

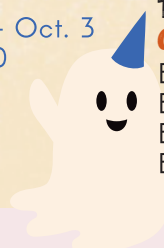
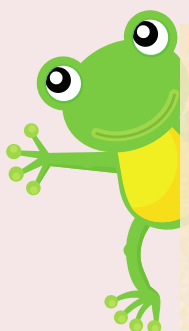
CHECK WEBSITE FOR REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Building Blocks for Tots: Part II Every Monday

Brainy Babies - Science Activity Sept. 7 - 14

Brainy Babies - Art Activity Oct. 5 - 12

Brainy Babies - Music Activity Nov. 2 - 9



Adult & Teen Programs

Register online at woodridgelibrary.org/events

ATTEND IN-PERSON: DROP-IN

COVID-19 Vax Van: Wed., Sept. 1, 10 a.m. – noon

DuPage County Health Department clinic. No appointment, walk-in.

Senior Cards & Games: 2nd & 4th Fridays of Each Month

"Zine Zone" Nov. 13 - 21

Visit a temporary interactive display of Zines or creative mini magazines.

Located Just-Off-the-Lobby. Zine giveaways, while supplies last.

ATTEND IN-PERSON: REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Forest Therapy, Tues., Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

Certified forest therapy guide presents: mindfully walking in nature.

Make a Seasonal Wreath, Wed., Sept. 22, 7 p.m. Supplies & inspiration provided.

Medicare 101, Tues., Oct. 5, 7 p.m. Medicare facts & enrollment options. Q&A

LinkedIn Learning, Tues., Oct. 19, 7 p.m. Free skills training.

BINGO! Thurs., Nov. 4, 7 p.m. Prizes include \$5 gift cards, books & fall surprises.

Demo: Making a Scrapbook with Canva, Thurs., Nov. 11, 7 p.m.

Quick, simple & free: use digital tools & your photos to make scrapbooks.



New "Bookmatch" Service

Need Help Finding Your Next Book? Just fill out a brief form on the website, letting us know what you're in the mood to read. Our Adult & Teen Services staff will send you a personalized list of 3 to 5 recommended titles!



TAKE & MAKE PROJECTS: NO REGISTRATION

Patterned Fabric Pumpkin Kit October 11 – 18

Pick up at the Circulation Desk, while supplies last.

IN-PERSON BOOK DISCUSSIONS: PLEASE REGISTER

Evvie Drake Starts Over, Tues, Sept. 28, 7 p.m.

The House in the Cerulean Sea, Tues., Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

The Windsor Knot, Tues., Nov. 30, 7 p.m.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS: REGISTER TO RECEIVE A ZOOM LINK TO ATTEND ONLINE

When the Music Died: The Beatles Breakup, Wed., Sept. 8, 7 p.m. Hosted by Beatles expert Gary Wenstrup.

Easy 3D Design with TinkerCAD, Tues., Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m. Create in the digital world.

Backyard Bats! Thurs., Sept. 23, 7 p.m. Find out why a bat expert suggests we should all invite bats into our yard.

Who Really Started the Great Chicago Fire of 1871? Thurs., Sept. 30, 7 p.m.

Author Richard C. Lindberg shares a compelling theory on the tragic 150-year-old fire's origin.

Mysterious Creatures of Illinois, Wed., Oct. 13, 7 p.m. Bizarre tales & weird stories from a paranormal cryptid hunter.

The World of Sharks-Live From the Bahamas, Thurs., Oct 21, 7 p.m. Scary & awesome.

Tarot Cards, Wed., Oct. 27, 7 p.m. Get an inside look at tarot card reading.

Learn About Zines, Tues, Nov. 9, 7 p.m.

Writers, creatives & philosophers: express yourself with zines.



TEENS

Teen Virtual Volunteering Projects: See the website for opportunities to earn up to one service hour a week.

PRACTICE SAT TESTS – ATTEND IN-PERSON: REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Sat., Sept. 25, Noon – 4 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 20, Noon – 4 p.m.

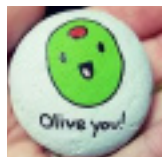
Teens take a practice test in a simulated testing environment, proctored by a library staff member; teens score their own test.

TAKE & MAKE KITS: FIND KITS IN THE TEEN AREA: NO REGISTRATION

Altered Altoids: Tic Tac Toe Game, September 20 - 26

Halloween Stress Balls, October 18 - 24

Punny Kindness Rocks, November 8 – 14



A Woodridge Public Library Card The Most Valuable Card In Your Wallet!



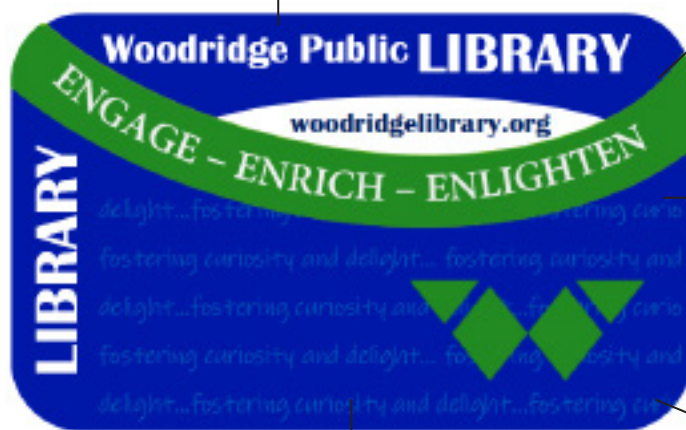
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Thousands of titles are available for checkout with no waiting from the shelves of your Woodridge Public Library with more titles available from 100 libraries in our network. Place holds for upcoming releases by your favorite authors.

Need a Woodridge **Library Card**?

Residents of incorporated Woodridge are eligible for a free library card. To receive your card, bring a valid, current photo ID and proof of address in Woodridge (driver's license, utility bill, recently delivered mail, a lease, etc.) to the library's Circulation Desk. For details visit woodridgelibrary.org or call 630-964-7899.



Get started at woodridgelibrary.org/library-cards-borrowing



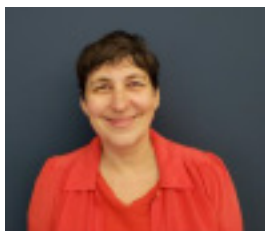
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WOODRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

From the Director



I am very excited to announce that the Woodridge Public Library is now **fine free**. This may be something you have heard about happening at other libraries, or it may be a fresh idea for you. Libraries have traditionally assessed overdue fines based on the belief that this was the best way to incentivize people to return their items on time. For most libraries, it has never been a significant part of their budget nor was it intended to be; in the case of our library, overdue fines represent less than 1% of our revenue.

Many libraries stopped charging overdue fines during COVID and we started seeing on a large scale, what some libraries had been saying for years, that return rates were the same whether there were overdue fines or not. In practice, charging fines for returning items late causes people to stop using the library.

Suspending library-borrowing privileges is far more of an incentive than fines, and it does not have the punitive aspect. When people have overdue items, they will have their card blocked. Once overdue items are returned, there will be no fine and more items can then be checked out. If you have more questions about how this works, check out our website or **inside this issue** of the newsletter for **Fine Free details** and the answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

Our goal is to encourage even more people to use the library. If you have library items that you have had for a while, now is the time to return them. As long as we have the items back, you will owe us nothing. We have also cleared any overdue fines that people have on their accounts. **We invite you to come in.** It's time for a clean slate.



—Pam Dubé



Storytime Registration Opens September 7

Woodridge Public Library

3 Plaza Drive, Woodridge, IL 60517
630-964-7899

woodridgelibrary.org
askus@woodridgelibrary.org



Library Hours

Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Library Closures

September 6 Labor Day

November 25 Thanksgiving

Board of Trustees

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Library Director: Pam Dubé

Library Managers

George Kalinka, Adult & Teen

Jessica Smith, Children's

Julie Lombardo, Circulation

Amy Weiss, Technical Services

Editor: Patti Naisbitt

Programming Accessibility

In need of accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act? Please contact us at least five days before the program.

Notice: attending programs constitutes consent to be photographed/videotaped for library purposes.



Friends of the Library

Join today: *Friends* applications available online or at the library.

Our Vision

We aspire to foster
curiosity and delight.